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PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 11 December 1990, at 3 p.m.

President:	Mr. de MARCO	(Malta)
later:	Mr. PEERTHUM (Vice-President)	(Mauritius)
later:	Mr. de MARCO	(Malta)

- Law of the Sea [33] (continued)

  (a) Reports of the Secretary-General

  (b) Draft resolution

- Science and peace: report of the Special Political Committee [71]

- Effects of atomic radiation: report of the Special Political Committee [72]

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  (a) Report of the Special Political Committee

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- Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations: report of the Special Political Committee [78]

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

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LAW OF THE SEA

(a) REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/45/563, A/45/712, A/45/721)

(b) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/45/L.29)

Mr. WILENSKI (Australia): I am making this statement on behalf of the delegations of Australia and New Zealand.

The year 1990 has been a landmark year for the law of the sea. In several areas of our work we have witnessed genuine progress, and a new co-operative spirit has emerged on a number of issues. The report of the Secretary-General on the law of the sea outlines the extensive activities that have been undertaken and constitutes a comprehensive and valuable chronicle of the significant progress made during the year. We welcome the report and commend the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for the untiring manner with which it has pursued progress in the period under review.

There are two recent developments in the law of the sea which we consider particularly noteworthy. First, an atmosphere of co-operation and common purpose is more and more evident in the deliberations directed towards the entry into force of a universally accepted Convention on the Law of the Sea. Secondly, recognition of the precarious state of the marine environment has led to encouraging progress in the development of legal mechanisms for the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

With regard to the first, recent developments have created the most favourable atmosphere since its adoption in 1982 for resolution of the differences of opinion

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surrounding part XI of the Convention. We welcome the initiative of the Secretary-General in convening informal consultations concerning part XI of the Convention.

The greater openness to dialogue on part XI issues resulted in substantive progress at the resumed eighth session of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, at which an agreement was reached on the issue of the pioneer investor obligations pursuant to resolution II of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. We see this as a further valuable indicator of the willingness of all States to seek agreement to facilitate the entry into force of a widely accepted law-of-the-sea Convention.

Progress on resolving part XI issues will, therefore, require new efforts and willingness to explore, in an open way, our real interests. We must fairly address the concerns of all participants. We are willing to play a positive role in this process.

Turning to my second point, the need for even greater efforts to protect and preserve the marine environment and to utilize its resources in a responsible manner has become clear to us all. We welcome the progress achieved thus far in this area and are committed to facilitating these efforts in the future.

In this context we welcome the adoption by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of guidelines for the identification of "particularly sensiitve areas", including the development of guidelines for designating special areas under annexes I, II and V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). This new concept of particularly sensitive areas is further evidence of the will of

(Mr. Wilenski, Australia)

States to co-operate in defining vulnerable marine areas requiring a higher level of protection than that which generally applies.

Australia particularly welcomes the adoption by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the IMO of consensus resolutions identifying the Great Barrier Reef region of Australia as the world's first particularly sensitive area under the IMO guidelines and calling on Governments to instruct ships flying their flag that they should act in accordance with the Australia's pilotage system in the Great Barrier Reef region. In order to minimize the risk posed by maritime traffic to the Great Barrier Reef, which is also the only marine area to be on the World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Australia is currently proceeding to implement a scheme of compulsory pilotage for merchant ships which constitute a potential threat to the environment of the Great Barrier Reef. Australia sees this unique scheme as a major step in securing greater protection for this unique and irreplaceable ecosystem.

Related to the protection and preservation of the marine environment is the issue of responsible utilization of high-seas living resources. The Secretary-General's report on the law of the sea refers to the displacement of distant-water fishing operations from the exclusive economic zones of coastal States, thereby increasing the resource pressure on high-seas fisheries. Our two countries are greatly concerned at this growing over-exploitation of high-seas living resources.

Over-exploitation of fish stocks can take a number of forms, including the over-use of acceptable fishing techniques to deplete fish stocks and the use of such particularly indiscriminate and wasteful fishing techniques as driftnets, which can have dramatic and unsustainable impacts on both target and non-target species. Unregulated exploitation of the high-seas component of straddling stocks

(Mr. Wilenski, Australia)

can have severe implications for management of fisheries resources in adjacent exclusive economic zones. Critical problems are already emerging with regard to straddling stocks in a number of regions. The international community is also beginning to recognize, in the pursuit of the objective of sustainable development for fisheries resources world wide, that there are significant environmental and resource-management linkages between fishing operations conducted on the high seas and those in areas under national jurisdiction.

As the Secretary-General notes in his report, one of the most striking developments in the area of marine environmental protection over the last year has been the endorsement by several international forums of the "precautionary principle." The precautionary principle recognizes that waiting for conclusive scientific proof concerning the impact of intrusions into the marine environment may result in significant and irreversible damage to that environment and the human populations which depend on it for their survival and subsistence.

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In essence, there is growing recognition of the need for States to manage fisheries resources from an ecosystem perspective and, as understanding of the oceanic environment is still imperfect, to adopt precautionary management measures that are consistent with the principles of sustainable development of resources.

In this regard we welcome the attention to be given by the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to the related issues of large-scale harvesting, new fishing technologies and fishing technologies incompatible with the sustainable management of living marine resources. It is worthy of note that the substantial report submitted to the Assembly at this session with relation to resolution 44/225 on drift-net fishing was in large part the work of the Office of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. The insight it provides into this facet of high-seas fisheries activity will, it is hoped, encourage increased emphasis on appropriately conserving and managing fisheries resources.

The adoption by consensus last year of resolution 44/225 on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing constitutes a major landmark. Over the last year we have seen progress made in implementing that resolution and further addressing the issues that this indiscriminate and wasteful fishing practice represents. We look forward during this session to the adoption of a further consensus resolution that will reiterate and reinforce the international community's support for the important principles set out in resolution 44/225 - principles directly derived from the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The international community can no longer afford the luxury of assuming that all is well with high-seas fisheries. At the rate high-seas fisheries are expanding, it is imperative that we develop frameworks for distant water fishing nations and coastal States to work together to ensure the sustainable development of those fisheries.

(Mr. Wilenski, Australia)

It is for this reason that consideration could be given to the elaboration by the United Nations Office on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, drawing on appropriate expertise, of a series of draft principles to be agreed between States, which could constitute the first steps towards a practical framework for the conservation and management of living resources in the area of the high seas. This is not the place to canvass in detail what might be included in such a framework, but we should flag here our view that any framework must provide for improvements in the timeliness and quality of catch and effort data available from high-seas fisheries. For high-seas fisheries to be managed properly, catch, effort and by-catch data must be made available to all interested parties. We would not see this work as compromising the traditional freedom of the high seas, nor should it be seen as an opportunity for unilateral extension of States' jurisdiction to the high seas. As the Secretary-General's report points out, the freedom to fish on the high seas is not unqualified and must take into account the rights and interests of coastal States.

Australia and New Zealand are pleased to sponsor the draft resolution (A/45/L.29) that is before the Assembly. It reflects the progress that has been made in the past year and enjoys broad support. We wish to acknowledge our appreciation for the excellent work done by Ambassador Jesus of Cape Verde in helping to bring the text to its present form.

Our delegations look forward to the day when we might be able to adopt a resolution on the law of the sea by consensus. While greater flexibility has been demonstrated by all concerned, the problems are complex and not susceptible to instant solutions. We reaffirm our belief that the resolution of the outstanding problems related to the law of the sea régime is in the interest of us all. We will need to continue the work that has begun to bring together the positions of all those involved.

(Mr. Wilenski, Australia)

We reaffirm our commitment to co-operating in achieving the entry into force of a universally accepted convention on the law of the sea.

Mr. SOKOLOVSKIY (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (interpretation from Russian): Our discussion of the report of the Secretary-General (A/45/721) on the status of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is taking place at a time when the entire world is becoming increasingly aware of its interrelatedness and of the need to strengthen the international rule of the law so as to create peaceful and secure conditions for the development of the entire international community and each individual State.

I should particularly like to make the point that the primacy of international law is not an end in itself. Rather, it is a means of bringing about a shift in the world from rivalry to partnership and co-operation. For that reason we attach great importance to the General Assembly's adopting a programme for the international decade of the law of the sea of the United Nations for its initial period. The ideas and aims of the programme should be directed towards making the concepts of the Convention and the primacy of the law part and parcel of the daily practice of inter-State relations. The efforts to create a global régime for the seas and oceans in accordance with the norms and principles of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 are directed towards the same end.

The implementation of the Convention, whose provisions govern the utilization of all marine expanses and resources, will affect the vital interests of the entire international community. In the opinion of our delegation, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is a fundamental means of ensuring the stable utilization and exploitation of the oceans and their resources, in particular a means of promoting international co-operation and bringing about effective and fair utilization of marine resources, preserving the living resources of the sea, and

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studying, protecting and preserving the marine environment. It is based on the principles of rational utilization, which are fully in keeping with the concept of ecologically safe development. We fully concur with the idea contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/45/721) that the entry of the Convention into force will give fresh impetus to the process of establishing internationally agreed norms and standards, as envisaged in that document, which still need to be worked out.

We would also like to add our voice to those of other delegations that have expressed concern at the ecological situation prevailing in the world, and since ecological safety cannot be divided into land safety and sea safety, the adoption of urgent steps to protect and preserve the marine environment, where global and climatic processes take place, affects the vital interests of both coastal and landlocked States. The idea of strengthening co-operation among all States in regard to the world's oceans is a recurring theme in all the provisions of the Convention.

An awareness on the part of all States of the responsibility they bear and a spirit of realism should in the long run be the basis for making the Convention a universal one. It is quite natural that new agreements that still have to be reached through current negotiations should reflect a balance between the interests of States and should take into account current economic realities, which differ considerably from the economic forecasts made when the Convention was signed.

(Mr. Sokolovskiy, Byelorussian SSR)

The Secretary-General is exerting great efforts to strengthen support for the Convention and compliance with its provisions in practice. Our delegation welcomes the initiative he has taken to organize informal consultations aimed at achieving universal participation by States in the Convention. The two rounds of consultations which have taken place so far have proved their usefulness in creating conditions in which more States would be encouraged to become parties to the Convention.

In our unfailing support for the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, we favour a realistic approach to the work designed to ensure the practical implementation of its provisions. We believe that compromise solutions should be sought on those problems relating to the deep-sea-bed régime that have proved to be a serious obstacle to the accession of several States to the Convention.

The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR is pleased to see that the Preparatory Commission's work is gradually moving towards finding practical solutions to the problems that have accumulated. Thanks in particular to the efforts of all those who have participated in the negotiating process, an agreement has been achieved and approved on the obligations of the registered pioneer investors and their certifying States. Grounds for optimism can also be found in the positive tone that marked the conclusion of the work of the Commission's resumed session in New York in 1990.

In contrast with the practice of previous years, the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea has prepared four reports on this item. I think this is evidence of the high degree of professionalism of the Office's staff and its readiness to promote a uniform interpretation and application of the Convention in practice. Byelorussia, whose territory and whose inhabitants suffered most from

(Mr. Sokolovskiy, Byelorussian SSR)

the consequences of the breakdown in the Chernobyl nuclear power station, has the greatest practical interest in those sections of the report dealing with the questions of environmental protection.

As to the draft resolution that is now before the General Assembly in document A/45/L.29, we believe that it reflects an observable tendency in the activities of the United Nations to strengthen the Convention, and it is geared to increasing further constructive efforts in the Preparatory Commission and reinforcing other important elements relating to the creation of a Convention régime. We support this draft resolution and express the hope that it will be adopted by consensus.

Mr. BENSID (Algeria) (interpretation from French): I have the honour of making this statement on behalf of the delegations of the States members of the Arab Maghreb Union: the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Republic of Tunisia, the Kingdom of Morocco and Algeria.

This year we are considering the item on the law of the sea at a crucial time, when new ideas and initiatives have emerged which unquestionably will shed particular light on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Convention, the most detailed instrument and the most representative of a universal effort to codify international law, has remained an indivisible whole, faithfully reflecting the interpretation of numerous aspects of the law of the sea.

After one of the most extraordinary, arduous and lengthy negotiations in history, the international community successfully consolidated all the aspects of the law of the sea, while at the same time taking ensuring a balance between all interests and all concerns. A particular success was the striking innovation in the field of the development of the marine resources beyond the area of national jurisdiction. And it is because this area, reflected in part XI of the Convention,

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was, and still is, the sole codified expression of mankind's desire to co-operate in the management and development of a heritage held in common that it requires renewed attention and interest on our part. Formulating all that is implied in the fact that we belong to a single universe, the régime set forth in part XI of the Convention confers upon it much more than the status of a legal instrument, albeit an innovative one; rather, it sets the seal on a value of modern civilization.

The approach which had been followed until the Convention was adopted in 1982 was ahead of its time. That approach remains innovative, and it is incumbent upon all of us here to defend it, not only in order to meet quickly the obligation and challenge of international co-operation implied in part XI, but also because any other approach would inevitably modify the structure of the Convention, each of whose elements and each of whose parts are indissolubly interlinked.*

There can be no doubt that the régime set forth in the Convention has to enjoy universal participation. I would say that it is clear that unless everyone participates, the benefits of the Convention on the Law of the Sea will never be complete. In this context, we cannot but commend and indeed encourage all the efforts to make this participation universal. At the same time, we should like to emphasize that, although the régime set forth in the Convention can be achieved only through universal participation, a fortiori universality cannot serve as a pretext for calling the régime into question.

In this regard, in order to ensure that current efforts to make the Convention universal have the best chances for success, the largest possible number of States

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* Mr. Peerthum (Mauritius), Vice-President, took the Chair.

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should be associated therein, particularly those that have ratified or signed the Convention, which certainly cannot be dissociated from actions affecting them first and foremost. We should also like to emphasize this point: it should be kept in mind that a pragmatic approach should not be equated with questioning in any way the integrity of the Convention, nor should it in any way jeopardize the Convention's stability.

(Mr. Bensid, Algeria)

The strength of the Convention is precisely its balance. It is essential that its universality be ensured while respecting that balance. Similarly, it is necessary to ensure that the balance of the Convention remains a determining factor, one which will favour its swift coming into force. If that is called into question at a time when the Convention has not yet even come into force, this could not but be extremely prejudicial and at variance with the spirit in which it was drafted.

Progress made in the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is undoubtedly of prime importance and exerts a determining influence on the sea-bed régime and the Convention itself.

While recalling that one of the features of the Convention on the Law of the Sea is that it has set forth the legal machinery required to offset any shortcomings which may emerge in the functioning of the sea-bed régime, we have taken note of the agreement on the implementation of the obligations subscribed to by pioneer investors and certifying States.

The sacrifices made in accepting that agreement should be matched by an equal commitment and sense of responsibility by the pioneer investors so that they will fully, swiftly and totally live up to their obligations, particularly those which are set out in paragraph 12 (a) of resolution II and the training programme of the Preparatory Commission.

While congratulating and thanking the secretariat and the Office for Ocean Affairs for the exhaustive and complete report they have prepared for us, I would have liked receiving it sufficiently in advance in order to make full use of the information contained therein for the purposes of the present debate.

Finally, on behalf of all delegations of States members of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), I should like to express our gratitude to the Chairman of the

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Preparatory Commission, Ambassador José Luis Jesús, for the excellent work he has done and the contribution which he has constantly made to the work of the Commission. I should like on this occasion to reiterate the support of the Maghreb States as he carries out the tasks entrusted to him.

Mr. TETU (Canada) (interpretation from French): This year Canada is again a sponsor of the draft resolution on the law of the sea, contained in document A/45/L.29.

Canada is pleased, inter alia, at the addition of a preambular paragraph to this draft resolution recalling that States have the duty to take the necessary measures for the conservation of the living resources of the high seas. Indeed, we are increasingly concerned at the fact that certain fishing methods and practices on the high seas have an adverse impact on the conservation and management of the living resources under the jurisdiction of coastal States. Because of these concerns, we decided to host a conference - which is mentioned in the Secretary-General's report - on the subject, which brought together legal and scientific experts from 16 countries at St. Johns, Newfoundland, from 5 to 7 September last.

Among the conclusions of that conference was the need to put an end to fishing practices on the high seas that are harmful to the environment, lead to non-selective and useless catches and threaten the effective conservation of the living resources of the seas, including fish, marine mammals, seabirds and species that are threatened with extinction, or run the risk of jeopardizing the bio-diversity and integrity of marine ecosystems. Furthermore, experts agree that all the members of the international community whose nationals are engaged in fishing activities on the high seas must endeavour to ensure that these activities do not have an adverse effect on the living resources of the areas under the jurisdiction of the coastal States.

(Mr. Tetu, Canada)

Canada has a special interest in fishing activities on the high seas along its Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and in particular regarding those stocks that are both within the exclusive economic zone and in an area of the high seas adjacent to that zone, where the management régime for such stocks should be compatible with the one applied by the coastal State in its exclusive economic zone.

Furthermore, we are of the opinion that guidelines should be agreed at the international level in order to ensure the gathering and exchange of scientific information and reliable statistics on fishing activities - statistics that are indispensable to an intelligent management system.

That being said, we should like to see the convening, under the auspices of the United Nations Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, of a group of experts composed of representatives of both traditional fishing countries and coastal States who would be entrusted with preparing principles that could form a practical framework for the conservation and management of the living resources of the high seas, in strict implementation of the rules contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

We consider the convening of such a group of experts as a logical follow-up in keeping with the spirit of the Newfoundland conference. Hence, it would not be a forum in which the interests of the coastal and seafaring States would clash but, rather, a forum which would place emphasis on sound environmental practices aimed at the conservation of the living resources with a view to their optimum exploitation.

Canada will soon be voting in favour of the aforementioned draft resolution. We hope that the improvements made to the text, if we make a comparison with resolutions adopted in the past, will soon motivate all States not to object to the unanimous adoption of this annual resolution. We should like to assure representatives that we shall spare no effort in that direction in order to arrive ultimately at universal participation in the Convention.

Mr. SOMAVIA (Chile) (interpretation from Spanish): I am pleased to be addressing the Assembly under the Presidency of Mr. Guido de Marco of Malta.

The year 1990 has been an important one for law of the sea activities. By reading the very good reports of the Secretary-General we can conclude that in all areas related to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea States have been working constantly to interpret and implement the provisions of that Convention. Special importance is attached to the protection of the marine environment, in conformity with the priority the international community has given to protection of the environment.

In that connection, as the Secretary-General reports, important efforts are under way to strengthen the effectiveness of international environmental law, especially in the light of the challenges and problems we need to deal with to lend coherence to the actions of States, taking particular account of their level of development, which has a major effect on the degree to which their obligations under various agreements can be met.

In that connection, any strategy for the protection of the marine environment that leads to international agreements must both contain universal principles and take into account the development needs of States to facilitate compliance by the developing countries with the principles and purposes of a strategy to protect the marine environment.

Another element of special interest to Chile relates to fisheries. Our country is among the world's largest exporters of fishery products thanks to its wealth of resources and to a policy of rational exploitation with adequate conservation regulations.

At the same time, changing circumstances relating to resources and their exploitation have made it necessary to revise Chilean legislation to adapt it to

(Mr. Somavia, Chile)

the new situation. For that reason, the Chilean congress is currently adopting a new fisheries law, among the objectives of which is to establish national authorities on resource conservation.

My Government is also extremely concerned about the situation of associated species. The Convention on the Law of the Sea establishes regulations to protect resources from the activities of fishing vessels from distant waters, which fish indiscriminately on the outer edge of the exclusive economic zone. There is no point in laying down conservation measures within the economic zone if there are no controls on capturing species when they leave the 200-mile jurisdictional zone.

That is why we have favoured the principle of consistency, which is entirely compatible with the provisions of the Convention on the Law of the Sea. That principle has the merit of universal applicability, because those who benefit from fishing in the high seas adjacent to economic zones are themselves victims of the practices of fishing vessels from distant waters in respect of associated species in their own economic zones.

One aspect of the law of the sea that has garnered special attention this year, both in the political and diplomatic and in the academic environments, relates to the exploitation of mineral resources outside national jurisdictions: sea-bed mining.

The Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority has reached final agreement on the obligations of pioneer investors, which are in keeping with exclusive rights to a mining site granted to them. That completed the implementation of resolution II of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and clearly demonstrates the viability of the provisions of the Convention and of resolution II on the establishment of a temporary system for the period preceding the entry into force of the Convention and the final régime. We

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must emphasize that fact. The process of negotiations on the implementation of that resolution was arduous and complex. Difficulties unforeseen by the negotiators arose and were resolved in a pragmatic way through fair, modern solutions in keeping with the current situation.

It is particularly important here to recall the modalities of the negotiations on settling overlapping mining sites as a step on the way to allocating exclusive rights. The negotiating process had some very interesting aspects; not only did it take place within the framework of the Preparatory Commission among pioneer investors which had submitted requests, but it also required a search for solutions along with other pioneer investors in order to comply with the purposes of resolution II by arriving at formulations not incompatible with the spirit of the resolution.

With the implementation of resolution II we have completed a significant step in the gradual development of the provisions of the law of the sea for sea-bed mining. That can be said unequivocally and with genuine pleasure.

But the passage of time has not had the same positive effect on problems relating to part XI of the Convention on the Law of the Sea. With the infinite clarity of hindsight, we ought perhaps to recognize that the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea ended without completing negotiations on outstanding problems relating to sea-bed mining. While the Preparatory Commission has done very important and significant work - under the successive chairmanships of the Prime Minister of Tanzania, Mr. Joseph Sinde Warioba, and Ambassador Jose Luis Jesus of Cape Verde - to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Conference, it must be acknowledged that difficulties that existed when the Convention was adopted continue to plague the work of the Preparatory Commission.

(Mr. Somavia, Chile)

At the same time consensus has been growing, on the basis of technical knowledge, between industrialized and developing countries on the actual current viability of sea-bed mining and on its future prospects. Recent developments in international relations have also been significant, especially those in North-South relations, whose philosophy was decisive at the time part XI of the Convention was negotiated.

Moreover, the academic world is again turning its attention to the Convention on the Law of the Sea, particularly its provisions on sea-bed mining and related problems. I stress this because prior to and during negotiations on the Convention the academic world was fertile ground for exploring ideas and concepts that later emerged as provisions of the Convention, following a process of reflection, refinement and adjustment to national interests.

Against the backdrop of international relations characterized by growing pragmatism and a search for consensus, and in view of the conviction that there will be no sea-bed mining for a long time to come, perhaps it is time to clarify the facts of these provisions and seek appropriate solutions acceptable to all.

Hence the importance of the Secretary-General's initiative to seek through informal consultations modalities that can lead to universal acceptance of the Convention. That initiative complements the work of the Preparatory Commission and is aimed at laying the foundations for a possible substantive consensus to prevent sea-bed mining problems from destabilizing the Convention as a whole, which would affect its binding nature and its role as a framework convention for national legislation in the whole broad range of Convention matters other than sea-bed mining. After all, it must be recalled that the Convention on the Law of the Sea goes far outside the question of sea-bed mining beyond national jurisdictions.

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Furthermore, it would be ironic if the Convention, containing provisions as crucial as those on navigation, delimitation, marine pollution, exploitation of resources and the definition of maritime areas, and constituting a universal framework applicable to the sea and the use of the sea, did not enter into force because of one of its parts which is to be implemented in the future, if at all.

Therefore, the Secretary-General's initiative is timely and necessary. We would encourage him to continue his efforts to create conditions and modalities that will make it possible to overcome the technical and political difficulties now preventing universal acceptance of the Convention.

In this process, admittedly difficult, the negotiations about the implementation of resolution II - where unforeseen, apparently insuperable difficulties were satisfactorily resolved, preserving the spirit of the resolution - should serve as an example.

As regards part XI, the governing principle should be the common heritage of mankind, whose application to the sea-bed outside national jurisdiction was agreed on by consensus, but it should be given a form that can command universal agreement. There seems to be no viable alternative to this principle, nor to a consensus on it.

The last decade of the twentieth century finds the international community at the end of the cold war and the dawn of a world order whose fundamental components will be produced not by spontaneous generation, but by painstaking, consistent and thoughtful work by all the States Members of the Organization. Those components must include freedom, respect for the rights of others, pragmatism and a shared view of the course we wish to follow.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea contains all those components and is an example of what the international community is capable of

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doing, even when faced with enormously complex problems, for it must not be forgotten that for centuries the problems now solved by the Convention had brought about armed conflicts between countries.

The importance of universal acceptance of the Convention and its contribution to the new order that is coming should be two sides of the same coin, which can serve as an example in dealing with other problems affecting the international community.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform the Assembly that the representative of Cuba has asked to be allowed to participate in the debate on this item. The list of speakers was closed today at noon, but if there is no objection I shall take it that the Assembly agrees to the inclusion of the name of the delegation of Cuba on the list of speakers.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I now call on the representative of Cuba.

Mr. MUJICA CANTELAR (Cuba) (interpretation from Spanish): Once again we are considering the agenda item concerning the law of the sea. Eight years have passed since the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and only 43 States have ratified it - 60 ratifications are required for the Convention to enter into force - although it has been signed by 159 countries. Of the 43 States that have ratified the Convention, only one is economically developed, and it is a small country: Iceland.

This leads to a situation that is dangerous for the future of the Convention, because it is rightly felt that if the Convention is to succeed it must be ratified by economically developed countries, so that the International Sea-Bed Authority can function properly. It is thought that persuading the United States, the most difficult of all, to ratify would induce the other developed countries to do so also.

(Mr. Mujica Cantelar, Cuba)

To that end, there is talk of changing part XI of the Convention, "The Area", which deals with exploitation of the sea-bed. But that is politically the most important part of the Convention. To confirm that that is so it is sufficient to mention article 140, headed "Benefit of mankind", which states:

"1. Activities in the Area shall, as specifically provided for in this part, be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States, whether coastal or land-locked, and taking into particular consideration the interests and needs of developing States and of peoples who have not attained full independence or other self-governing status recognized by the United Nations ...".

The countries interested in the Convention, including the developing countries, must take the greatest care to see that no important changes are made to part XI that affect the forward-looking character of the Convention.*

Priority should be given to measures to protect developing countries that produce on land minerals similar to those to be extracted from the sea-bed. We must also ensure that the interests of the Enterprise and the Authority are fully recognized and that their links with developing countries are clearly established. Similarly, we must be certain that there are no changes in part XI that could be prejudicial to our developing countries and the progressive nature of the Convention.

At the last meeting of the Preparatory Commission, at the end of its eighth session, an important agreement was reached, registering the acknowledgement by the pioneer investors of their obligations to the Authority and the Enterprise, and including measures guaranteeing the functioning of the system. This is one more reason why we must work for the implementation of the Convention.

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* The President returned to the Chair.

(Mr. Mujica Cantelar, Cuba)

The best way to defend the Convention is to proceed to ratify it. We have already obtained 43 ratifications, and as we approach the 60 required, to enable the Convention to enter into force a year later, progressive developed countries will be motivated to join those that have already ratified it. That is why we conclude this brief statement with an appeal for ratification, not only by the developing countries but also by the developed.

Finally, I wish to inform the Assembly that my delegation has joined in sponsoring of draft resolution A/45/L.29. We consider the draft resolution to be consistent with the efforts the international community is making in connection with the law of the sea and to be a new, positive step in those continued efforts. That is why we shall, of course, vote in favour of the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT: We have heard the last speaker in the debate on this item.

I should like to remind members that action on draft resolution A/45/L.29 will be taken on Friday, 14 December, in the morning.

AGENDA ITEMS 71 TO 78

SCIENCE AND PEACE: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/817 and Corr.1)

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/687)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/821 and Corr.1)

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/822)

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/823 and Corr.1)

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

(a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/824 and Corr.1)

(b) REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/45/836)

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

(a) REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/825 and Corr.1)

(b) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION (A/45/21, para. 76)

QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE RELEVANT ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (A/45/725)

The PRESIDENT: I call on the Rapporteur of the Special Political Committee, Ms. Catherine von Heidenstam of Sweden, to introduce the reports of the Special Political Committee.

Ms. von HEIDENSTAM (Sweden), Rapporteur, Special Political Committee: I have the honour to present to the General Assembly for its consideration eight reports of the Special Political Committee.

The first report (A/45/817) relates to agenda item 71, "Science and peace". The Committee devoted one meeting to this item and after hearing four speakers in the general debate adopted a draft resolution without a vote. The draft resolution, which appears in paragraph 8 of the report, is recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

(Ms. von Heidenstam, Rapporteur, Special Political Committee)

The next report (A/45/687) relates to agenda item 72, "Effects of atomic radiation". The Special Political Committee considered this item at two meetings, and after hearing 17 statements in the general debate adopted a draft resolution without a vote. The draft resolution, which appears in paragraph 8 of the report, is recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

The third report which I have the honour to present today relates to agenda item 73, "International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space", and is contained in document A/45/821. The Special Political Committee devoted five meetings to consideration of this item, and after hearing 32 speakers in the general debate adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution which appears in paragraph 11 of the report and which is recommended to the General Assembly for approval. In paragraph 12 of the report, the Committee makes a recommendation to the General Assembly concerning the seat in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space vacated as a result of the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The fourth report (A/45/822) relates to agenda item 74, "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East". The Committee considered this item at four meetings and heard 31 statements in the general debate. Eleven draft resolutions, which appear in paragraph 36 of the report, are recommended to the General Assembly for adoption. Two of the draft resolutions were adopted without a vote and the rest by recorded votes.

With respect to agenda item 75, "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories", the report of the Committee is contained in document A/45/823 and Corr.1. Six meetings of the Special Political

(Ms. von Heidenstam, Rapporteur, Special Political Committee)

Committee were devoted to this item, and 30 delegations took part in the discussion. Seven draft resolutions, all of which were adopted by recorded votes, appear in paragraph 24 of the report and are recommended to the General Assembly for approval.

The next report (A/45/824) relates to agenda item 76, "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects". The Committee considered this item at four meetings and after hearing 41 statements in the general debate, adopted without a vote the draft resolution which appears in paragraph 14 of the report and is recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

Turning now to agenda item 77, "Questions relating to information", the Committee's report is contained in document A/45/825. Seven meetings of the Special Political Committee dealt with the consideration of this item, and 50 speakers participated in the general debate. The two draft resolutions, which were adopted without a vote, appear in paragraph 26 of the report and are recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

Finally, I present the Committee's report on agenda item 78, "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations", which is contained in document A/45/725. For the reasons set out in paragraph 3 of the report, the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include this item in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session.

The PRESIDENT: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Special Political Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the various recommendations of the Special Political Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that:

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Political Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed with the voting in the same manner as was done in the Special Political Committee. This means that where recorded or separate votes were taken, we will do the same.

I would also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Special Political Committee, unless delegations have already notified the Secretariat otherwise.

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 71, entitled "Science and peace" (A/45/817 and Corr.1).

(The President)

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 8 of its report (A/45/817 and Corr.1).

The Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 45/70).

The PRESIDENT: We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 71.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/687) on agenda item 72, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation".

The Assembly has to take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Special Political Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 45/71).

The PRESIDENT: We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 72.

I invite the Assembly to turn its attention to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/821 and Corr.1) on agenda item 73, entitled "International Co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space".

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution adopted by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

The Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 45/72).

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 12 of its report (A/45/821 and Corr.1) the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly, noting the endorsement of the Eastern European States, appoint the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to fill the seat on the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space vacated by the former German Democratic Republic.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly, taking into account the recommendation of the Special Political Committee, to appoint the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic a member of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We have concluded our consideration of agenda item 73.

The General Assembly will turn next to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/822) on agenda item 74, entitled "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East".

The General Assembly has to take decisions on the 11 draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 36 of its report.

I must put to the General Assembly draft resolution A, entitled "Assistance to Palestine Refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

Draft resolution A was adopted by 146 votes to none, with one abstention (resolution 45/73 A).*

The PRESIDENT: Draft resolution B is entitled "Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East".

The Special Political Commitee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution B was adopted (resolution 45/73 B)

The PRESIDENT: Draft resolution C, entitled "Assistance to persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities", was also adopted without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt it?

Draft resolution C was adopted (resolution 45/73 C).

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to draft resolution D, entitled "Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

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* Subsequently, the delegations of Gambia and Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

Draft resolution D was adopted by 146 votes to none, with one abstention (resolution 45/73 D).*

The PRESIDENT: Draft resolution E is entitled "Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967". A recorded vote has been requested.

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution E was adopted by 145 votes to 2 (resolution 45/73 E).*

The PRESIDENT: Draft resolution F is entitled "Resumption of the ration distribution to Palestine refugees". A recorded vote has been requested.

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Poland, Romania, Spain

Draft resolution F was adopted by 118 votes to 20, with 9 abstentions (resolution 45/73 F).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to draft resolution G, entitled "Return of population and refugees displaced since 1967".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Draft resolution G was adopted by 121 votes to 2, with 24 abstentions (resolution 45/73 G).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We come next next to draft resolution H, entitled "Revenues derived from Palestine refugees' properties".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Draft resolution H was adopted by 120 votes to 2, with 25 abstentions (resolution 45/73 H).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to draft resolution I, entitled "Protection of Palestine refugees".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution I was adopted by 145 votes to 2 (resolution 45/73 I).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We come now to draft resolution J, which is entitled "University of Jerusalem 'Al-Quds' for Palestine Refugees".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution J was adopted by 145 votes to 2 (resolution 45/73 J).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: Finally, we come to draft resolution K, which is entitled "Protection of Palestinian students and educational institutions and safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugeess in the Near East in the occupied Palestinian territory".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution K was adopted by 145 votes to 2 (resolution 45/73 K).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 74.

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/823 and Corr.1) on agenda item 75, "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

The Assembly will take decisions on the seven draft resolutions, A to G, recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 25 of its report. After all the votes have been taken, representatives will be given an opportunity to explain their votes.

I invite members to turn their attention to draft resolution A. A separate vote has been requested on operative paragraph 6. Is there any objection to that request?

Since there is none, I shall put operative paragraph 6 to the vote first.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela

Operative paragraph 6 was retained by 75 votes to 24, with 37 abstentions.*

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* Subsequently, the delegations of Canada and Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote against.

The PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote draft resolution A as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Spain, Sweden, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Draft resolution A as a whole was adopted by 101 votes to 2, with 43 abstentions (resolution 45/74 A).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now turn to draft resolution B. A separate, recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution B. Is there any objection to that request? Since that is not the case, I shall therefore put it to the vote first.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution B was adopted by 146 votes to 1.*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote draft resolution B, as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: United States of America

Draft resolution B, as a whole, was adopted by 145 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 45/74 B).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: I now invite members to turn their attention to draft resolution C.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: United States of America

Draft resolution C was adopted by 144 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 45/74 C).*

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* Subsequently the delegations of Brazil and Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to draft resolution D.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution D was adopted by 144 votes to 2 (resolution 45/74 D).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: Next, I put to the vote draft resolution E.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: United States of America

Draft resolution E was adopted by 145 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 45/74 E).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote draft resolution F.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Malawi, United States of America

Draft resolution F was adopted by 144 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions (resolution 45/74 F).*

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

The PRESIDENT: Finally, I put to the vote draft resolution G.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Draft resolution G was adopted by 145 votes to 2 (resolution 45/74 G)*.

The PRESIDENT: That concludes our consideration of agenda item 75.

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* Subsequently the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

(The President)

We shall now consider the report (A/45/824 and Corr.1) of the Special Political Committee on agenda item 76, entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".

I now call on the representative of Nicaragua, who wishes to make a statement.

Mr. MAYORGA CORTES (Nicaragua) (interpretation from Spanish): In connection with the adoption of this draft resolution Nicaragua wants to reflect the importance it attaches to the subject of peace-keeping operations, in particular because our country and the Central American region have benefited from these actions taken by the United Nations. At the same time Nicaragua, as a matter of principle, has been consistent in its support for the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Charter.

In addition to its full acceptance of this subject conceptually, this subject also has specific implications for Nicaragua. For us the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations reflected in the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), the United Nations Observer Mission to verify the electoral process in Nicaragua (ONUVEN) and the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) constitute a significant contribution by the international community to the preservation of democracy, the achievement of peace and the beginning of a process of democratic transformation and social and economic change.

(Mr. Mayorga Cortes, Nicaragua)

With regard to United Nations peace-keeping operations, my delegation would like to reiterate the views expressed by the representative of Honduras when speaking on behalf of the Central American countries during the Assembly's consideration of agenda item 28, "The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives". He said:

"... The United Nations presence has made a timely and important contribution to building confidence in the process. Monitoring by the world Organization of the implementation of the commitments undertaken by the Central American Governments has been indispensable in the achievement of the results witnessed so far.

"The complementarity of the United Nations in the working of the machinery now in operation in Central America has had highly satisfactory results. The United Nations Observer Group in Central American (ONUCA), which has been employed in the region since last December, made it possible to carry out the joint demobilization plan for members of the Nicaraguan resistance until its completion in June of this year." (A/45/PV.43, p. 4)

We were therefore pleased at the adoption of Security Council resolution 675 (1990), in which, as requested by the Secretary-General, the mandate of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) is extended. We should also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation of the tireless and successful work of General Augustin Quesada, the head of the ONUCA Military Observers in Central America, who has just completed his mandate. His excellent leadership was a wonderful contribution to the peace-making process and to the process of democratization in Nicaragua. He was a true United Nations ambassador for peace, and we should like to express Nicaragua's special appreciation to him and to all the countries that have contributed with contingents and other resources to the work of ONUCA.

(Mr. Mayorga Cortes, Nicaragua)

We also want to highlight the fact that the United Nations contributions to peace-keeping activities in Nicaragua has been accompanied by important internal efforts to achieve economic and social harmony and total disarmament. At the end of October this year substantive agreements were reached between the Government and the private sector and 35 labour and other organizations. Those agreements lay the foundations for stable, sustained and equitable development based on consensus.

The process of agreement is also being extended to rural areas in Nicaragua in order to build confidence between the rural sector and the demobilized Nicaraguan resistance. In this connection I would reiterate that in the eight months of President Chamorro's Government the army has been reduced from over 100,000 to 28,000 troops, which is the lowest level in Central America. In December a national disarmament commission was established and a number of local commissions set up to complete that task, in co-operation with the civilian population, and to strengthen peace throughout Nicaragua. Over 20,000 weapons have been turned in by the demobilized resistance, and more have been recovered by the Government.

We believe that the current international climate is conducive to the proper functioning of peace-keeping operations in various parts of the world where conflicts of different kinds continue to persist. The experience in Nicaragua and the United Nations recognition of it prompt us to state that if they are to be effective such operations must be based on the political will of the States concerned, for in the final analysis their success always depends on the internal efforts of the countries themselves to achieve peace.

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 14 of its report (A/45/824 and Corr.1). The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in document A/45/836.

(The President)

The Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 45/75).

The PRESIDENT: We have completed this stage of our consideration of agenda item 76.

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/825 and Corr.1) on agenda item 77, entitled "Questions relating to information". The Assembly will now take decisions on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Special Political Committee in paragraph 26 of its report.

Draft resolution A is entitled "Information in service of humanity". The Special Political Committee adopted draft resolution A without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution A was adopted (resolution 45/76 A).

The PRESIDENT: Draft resolution B is entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities". The Special Political Committee adopted draft resolution B without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution B was adopted (resolution 45/76 B).

The PRESIDENT: I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to a matter relating to the membership of the Committee on Information. In paragraph 76 of its report (A/45/21), the Committee on Information has recommended to the General Assembly that the membership of the Committee be increased from 74 to 78 and that Czechoslovakia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica and Uruguay be appointed members of the Committee.

(The President)

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to increase the membership of the Committee on Information from 74 to 78 members and to appoint Czechoslovakia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica and Uruguay as members of the Committee on Information?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In addition, I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to a letter dated 3 October 1990 (A/45/567) in which the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany informed the Secretary-General that through the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany, with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States had united to form one sovereign State. Consequently, the seat that had been occupied by the former German Democratic Republic in the Committee on Information became vacant as at 3 October 1990.

Following consultations with the regional groups it has been agreed that the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic should be appointed to fill this vacancy. If I hear no objection, may I take it that the Assembly appoints the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic as a member of the Committee on Information, with immediate effect?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 77.

We turn now to the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/725) on agenda item 78.

In paragraph 5 of its report the Special Political Committee recommends that the General Assembly should include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations".

(The President)

In the absence of any objection, may I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

The recommendation was adopted.

The PRESIDENT: We have now concluded our consideration of agenda item 78 and of all the reports of the Special Political Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 8 (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

(a) REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL SUB-ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/45/237)

(b) REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL SUB-ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/45/238)

The PRESIDENT: I now request the Assembly to turn to the requests for the inclusion of two additional sub-items in the agenda of the forty-fifth session - under, respectively, agenda item 16, "Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs", and agenda item 17, "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs". In this connection two Notes by the Secretary-General have been circulated, in documents A/45/237 and A/45/238.

In both Notes the Secretary-General advises the Assembly that, by a letter dated 3 October 1990 (A/45/567), the Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany has informed hiim that through the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States have united to form one sovereign State.

In his Note contained in document A/45/237, the Secretary-General informs the Assembly that the seat that had been occupied by the German Democratic Republic in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme became vacant as at 3 October 1990 and that the Assembly will therefore be required at its forty-fifth session to elect a member of the Governing Council for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the German Democratic Republic - that is, until 31 December 1993.

Inasmuch as agenda item 16 of the forty-fifth session of the Assembly does not include a sub-item relating to the election to fill this vacancy, it is proposed that an additional sub-item entitled "Election of a member of the Governing Council

(The President)

of the United Nations Environment Programme" be included in the agenda of the forty-fifth session under agenda item 16.

In his Note contained in document A/45/238, the Secretary-General informs the Assembly that the seat that had been occupied by the German Democratic Republic in the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women became vacant on 3 October 1990 and that the Assembly will therefore be required at its forty-fifth session to take note of the appointment by its President of a member to that Committee for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the German Democratic Republic - that is, until 31 December 1991.

Inasmuch as agenda item 17 of the forty-fifth session of the Assembly does not include a sub-item relating to the appointment to fill this vacancy, it is proposed that an additional sub-item entitled "Appointment of a member of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women" be included in the agenda of the forty-fifth session under agenda item 17.

If I hear no objection, may I take it that the General Assembly agrees to waive rule 40 of the rules of procedure, which requires consideration and recommendation by the General Committee with respect to requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I also take it that the Assembly wishes to include under agenda item 16 the following sub-item: "(c) Election of a member of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme", and under agenda item 17 the following sub-item: "(i) Appointment of a member of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Decade Fund for Women"?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform members that the Assembly will take up sub-item (c) of agenda item 16 and sub-item (i) of agenda item 17 tomorrow afternoon as the first two items.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT: I should like to make an announcement with regard to the tentative programme of work for the last two days of this week.

On Thursday, 13 December, in the afternoon, the Assembly will take action on draft resolutions relating to agenda item 117, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations"; item 25, "Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States"; and item 35, "The situation in the Middle East".

On Friday, 14 December, in the morning, the Assembly will take action on the draft resolution relating to agenda item 33, "Law of the Sea". It will also consider the reports of the Third Committee and will take action on the draft resolution relating to agenda item 152, "Critical economic situation in Africa".

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.